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13 March 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant to the Director for Planning and Coordination

SUBJECT : Report of Discussions with Pilots

1. At the request of your Office, Mr. Houston selected me to visit the site and deal with the pilots in an effort to determine precisely their problems and requests for adjustments and to assist them in whatever way possible. Prior to my departure, I discussed the contract with the pilots with members of your staff including [redacted] believed that if at all possible 25X1A9a the Agency should adhere to the basic concepts in the contract although he agreed that if necessary they could be adjusted somewhat along the lines of the suggestions contained in my memorandum to the Director of Administration, PCS/DCI, 2 March 1956.

2. I arrived at the site on 8 March and stayed there until Saturday afternoon, 10 March. Initially I had considerable discussion 25X1A9a with [redacted] and eventually met with the pilots as a group late on 8 March. I later met with some of the pilots individually and we again met as a group on 10 March. No one was present at these meetings 25X1A9a except [redacted]

3. At our first meeting it was clear from the first that the pilots were extremely upset and believed that many promises made to them had not been kept. In addition, they outlined many irritating factors which they believed served no useful purpose but did make things difficult for them personally. Their specific points can be roughly categorized as follows:

a. They had been led to believe that they would have more opportunity for flying and were specifically interested in getting time in the T-33. I explained to them that this was a matter completely outside my province and I would not even attempt to pursue the subject at Headquarters.

b. In the field of recreation it was indicated many promises had been made relating to the possible beach house or other facilities. In fact there was some question about transportation. The pilots were told that I would try to get for them some general answer on this problem but that probably the answer could not be specific although it was indicated it might be possible to give [redacted] some 25X1A9a authority in this regard.

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